

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  NORTHERN NATURAL GAS COMPANY	DOCKET NO. LRP-00-2
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**ORDER ACCEPTING LAND RESTORATION PLAN**

(Issued October 11, 2000)

On September 7, 2000, Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern) filed an agricultural land restoration plan with the Utilities Board (Board) pursuant to Iowa Code Supplement § 479.14(9), which provides that a land restoration plan be filed with the Board prior to initiation of pipeline construction. The plan has been identified as Docket No. LRP-00-2. On September 27, 2000, Northern filed an amendment to the plan, stating that it will replace four elbows on the B-line rather than the two originally proposed. No objections to the plan have been filed.

The plan filed by Northern includes two construction projects in Mills County, Iowa. The first project is the Glenwood Interconnect Replacement which involves the replacement of approximately 80 feet of the 16" D-Line tie-in to the Glenwood Interconnect and the replacement of a five-foot segment of the 16" Glenwood Interconnect pipeline. The construction will take place on the property of a single landowner. Northern proposes to begin the first project on or about October 23, 2000, and complete construction on or about October 27, 2000.

The second project, as revised by the September 27, 2000, amendment, involves the Palmyra-to-Oakland B & C lines Class Change and consists of the replacement of four elbows and 300 feet of pipe on the 26" B-Line, and the replacement of two elbows on the 30" C-Line. Northern proposes to begin construction on the C-Line on or about October 2, 2000, and on the B-Line on or about October 9, 2000. Northern estimates its completion of the two projects by October 15, 2000.

Northern states that it will construct the projects pursuant to its blanket certificate of public convenience and necessity granted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on or about September 1, 1982, in FERC Docket No. CP82-401-000. The projects will be constructed in accordance with the standards established by FERC's "Upland Erosion Control, Revegetation, and Maintenance Plan," Exhibit A to the filing. In addition, Northern states that it will not commence or continue construction on the projects in wet soil conditions at times when, or locations where, the passage of construction equipment may cause rutting to the extent that topsoil and subsoil are mixed.

The Board has reviewed the project plan and finds it adequately addresses the land restoration issues contained in Iowa Code Supplement § 479A.14(1), including Northern's agreement to stop construction during wet soil conditions. The Board is considering revised rules concerning agricultural land restoration during pipeline construction, but those rules have not become effective. Based upon its review of

the project plan the Board will accept Northern's agricultural land restoration plan for the two projects.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

The agricultural land restoration plan filed by Northern Natural Gas Company on September 7, 2000, as amended on September 27, 2000, is accepted.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr.      /s/ Diane Munns  
Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2000.